

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill provides for a legislative surrogacy commission to look at issues surrounding the process of arranging for a birth and having another woman carry a pregnancy for others, including legal and ethical implications of legislation in this area.

Section

1 Legislative surrogacy commission.

Subd. 1. Membership. Provides that the commission shall have 15 members appointed by June 1, 2015 and that the members shall be made up for three appointments by the senate majority leader, three members that are appointment by senate minority leader, three members by the speaker of the house, and three members by the house minority leader, and the commissioner of the Department of Human Services, or their designee, the commissioner of the Department of Health, or their designee, and a family court referee appoint by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Subd. 2. Chair. Provides that the commission shall elect a chair from among its members.

Subd. 3. First meeting. Provides that the commission must convene by July 1, 2015.

Subd. 4. Compensation. Provides that members of the commission are entitled to compensation consistent with chapter 3.

Section

Subd. 5. Conflict of interest. Prohibits participation or voting on commission activities that would affect the personal financial interest of the member and witnesses must disclose financial conflicts.

Subd. 6. Duties. Requires the commission to study through public hearings, research, and deliberation the significant ethical and public policy concerns raised by surrogacy agreements, including health and psychological concerns, business practices, contract agreements, and legal rights of the parties involved in assisted reproduction as it relates to surrogacy.

Subd. 7. Reporting. Requires reports and recommendations to the house and senate committees with jurisdiction over this issue by December 15, 2015, and may provide legislative recommendations. This section requires a majority and minority report if there is not consensus.

Subd. 8. Staffing. Requires the Legislative Coordinating Commission to provide staffing and administrative support to the commission.

Subd. 9. Expiration. Provides that the commission expires the day after submitting the report under subdivision 7, which is December 16, 2015.

Effective date. Provides that this section is effective the day following final enactment.